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**RABORN DEFENDS
CIA AS VITAL TO
SECURITY OF U. S.**

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, July 17 — The

central intelligence agency was defended today as "a wonderful organization, vital to the security of the United States and one that could not be done without."

The statement came from Adm. William F. Raborn (ret.), who recently stepped down as director of the super-secret spy organization. He charged that recent criticism of the CIA has been "largely based on inaccuracies and not justified at all. The agency deserves the unbounded admiration and support of everyone in the United States and around the world," he said, during a television interview on NBC's Meet the Press.

He defended the high degree of secrecy attached to the organization, saying that a foreign intelligence unit could learn how effective the CIA is, just by learning the amount of its operating budget and learning how many persons it employs. Raborn said one of the bright spots of the CIA is the large number of "bright, outstanding, really patriotic people" it attracts as potential employees. He said that 77 per cent of all CIA employees hold a college degree, and that 20 per cent of the employees hold advanced degrees.

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